



## National Park Service Briefing Statement

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**Park:** Fort Stanwix National Monument  
**Title:** FY 2003 (October 2002 – September 2003) Projects

### FACILITIES

Willett Center – Finalize the environmental assessment and other compliance documents, receive NPS development advisory board approval, prepare documents for bid by mid 2003 and begin construction in last half of 2003.

Install exterior lighting at the Fort – The NPS will install exterior lighting to enhance the appearance of the fort and provide a safer area for nighttime functions and community activities.

Reconfigure interior east and southwest casemates - These casemates will undergo improvements to provide for more efficient staff and visitor usage.

Complete facility conditions assessment – As part of an NPS nationwide effort staff will complete a facility conditions assessment that will help identify and prioritize long-term maintenance needs.

Repair concrete walls within fort structure – Install air circulators in fort tunnels to move air to remove condensation from interior of the fort.

### PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS

Increase visitation through marketing and enhanced events – Build upon visitation increases in 2002 by continuing to work with partners in the community and throughout the Mohawk Valley to market in creative ways and offer a diverse array of programs and events. New programs will include “Saturday Fun at the Fort”, a Utica Symphony Concert, and campfire programs. Marketing and promotional campaigns will take place with several local groups including Oneida County, 3 Valleys to Freedom, Utica Monday Night, and the Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor.

Initiate publications program – Complete print and web-based publications related to the history of Fort Stanwix, the Mohawk Valley, and the American Revolution.

Strengthen education partnerships – Work closely with the school districts to increase the use of Fort Stanwix by the schools and collaborate on curriculum development to fully integrate NPS programs within the New York State curriculum. Develop and host a Teacher Institute during the summer.

### Experience Your America

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Complete new exhibits – NPS and its partners throughout the Mohawk Valley will complete three exhibits projects this year. Projects include: two traveling “Discovery Station” exhibits; new outdoor wayside exhibits at the Fort; and a permanent exhibit at the new Herkimer visitor center at the Herkimer NYS Thruway exit.

## **PLANNING AND RESEARCH**

General (Strategic) Management Plan – Complete this document that defines the vision of Fort Stanwix National Monument and incorporates the findings of the business plan (completed in 2002).

Complete Long Range Interpretive Plan – This plan will help to reevaluate the scope of the Fort Stanwix story, begin to address the range of interpretive media and program needs and address interpretive space requirements and replacements of out-of-date exhibits.

Visitor Services Project - This Visitor Services Project represents the first comprehensive look at visitors ever undertaken at Fort Stanwix National Monument. The Visitors Services Project will help us obtain accurate information about visitors, who they are, what they do, their needs and opinions. Data gathered will inform decisions on facility use, interpretive programming, special events, and resource management goals.

Administrative History - The purpose of this Administrative History, scheduled for completion in 2004, is to provide a comprehensive account of the establishment of Fort Stanwix National Monument and its management to the present. The legislative history and important issues in planning, land acquisition, development, public relations, and other topics of ongoing management concern will be emphasized.

## **Experience Your America**

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